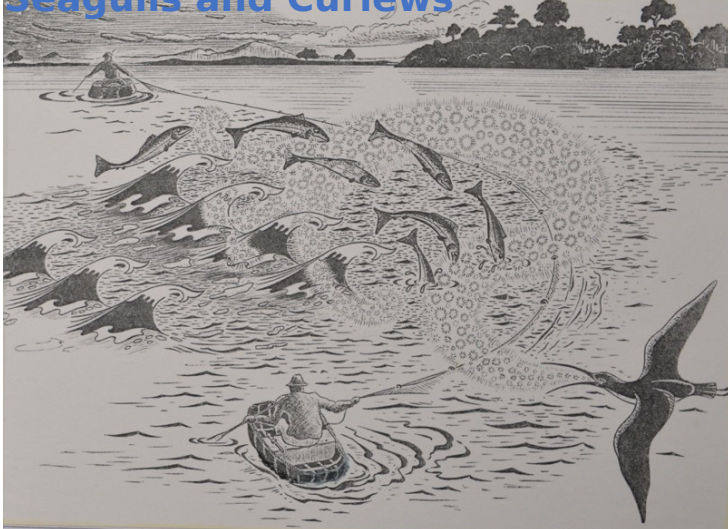


MYTHS, FOLKLORE &

Seagulls and Curlews



Coracle men are wary of the river birds like seagulls and curlews.

If the fisherman hears the birds cawing around the nets it is said that the birds are calling the fish into the nets. The fishermen would feel they had to do another trip down the river to please the birds.

It wouldn't matter how tired they were they would superstitiously have to do another run because of the

Crows and Ravens

Some coraclers would hide their faces in their hats every time they saw a crow or a raven flying up the river towards them.

They would also duck down into their coracles to hide.



The tradition is linked to the Vikings ships that came up the river hundreds of years ago to kill and steal anything they could get.

The Vikings ships had sails painted with black ravens on. The coracle men would hide in the long rushes beside the river and would sit low in the coracle. There they would stay until the Viking ships went back downstream. And in memory of that, coraclers would always hide behind their hats and squat down in their coracles when a crow or raven flew